

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-06

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DRAFTED BY EB/AN:JBMAGNOR:DAP

APPROVED BY EB/AN:MHSTYLES

EUR/WE - E. BEIGEL

CAB - F. MURPHY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: EAIR, IT

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: CONSULTATIONS WITH GOI

REF: ROME 14442 AND PREVIOUS

1. WITH QUALIFICATIONS NOTED BELOW WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT ON SEPARATE QUESTIONS OF EXTRA SECTIONS AND WET LEASES, BOTH SIDES SHOULD BE CONTENT WITH MODUS VIVENDI THAT EXIST. WE CAN UNDERSTAND THAT ITALIANS MAY FIND CAB PRIOR APPROVAL REQUIREMENT FOR WET LEASE OPERATIONS ADMINISTRATIVELY BURDENSOME. THEY SHOULD REALIZE, HOWEVER, THAT NONE OF THEIR REQUESTS FOR WET LEASE APPROVAL HAS EVER BEEN DENIED. MOREOVER, THEIR EXTRA SECTION OPERATIONS DO NOT REQUIRE CAB PRIOR APPROVAL AT ALL.

2. ON OTHER HAND, US CARRIERS FIND ITALIAN PRIOR APPROVAL FOR EXTRA SECTIONS ADMINISTRATIVELY AND OPERATIONALLY BURDENSOME AND OBVIOUSLY IRRITATING SINCE ALITALIA UNDER NO SUCH US REQUIREMENT. WHILE US CARRIERS ARE PREPARED FOR PRESENT TO LIVE WITH ITALIAN REQUIREMENT, IT WOULD BE OBVIOUS US OBJECTIVE IN ANY CONSULTATIONS ON SUBJECT OF EXTRA SECTIONS TO SEEK REMOVAL THIS REQUIREMENT. IF THIS

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OBJECTIVE NOT ACHIEVED AS RESULT OF CONSULTATIONS, IT IS

LIKELY PRIOR APPROVAL REQUIREMENT WOULD BE PLACED ON ALL
ALITALIA EXTRA SECTION OPERATIONS.

3. EMBASSY SHOULD RESPOND TO ITALIAN REQUESTS FOR
CONSULTATIONS ON EXTRA SECTIONS AND WET LEASES WITHOUT
CAVEATS WITH RESPECT TO TIMING TO EFFECT THAT US IS
PREPARED IN PRINCIPLE TO MEET WITH GOI ON THESE QUESTIONS
AT A SUITABLE TIME. HOWEVER, SINCE CONSULTATIONS MAY BE
FRAUGHT WITH MORE IMPLICATIONS THAN ITALIANS HAVE
ANTICIPATED, EMBASSY MAY WISH, DRAWING ON ABOVE AND
PREVIOUS MESSAGES, TO POINT OUT INFORMALLY THAT CONSULT-
ATIONS WOULD NOT BE IN BEST INTEREST OF EITHER SIDE,
ESPECIALLY GIVEN MORE PRESSING AVIATION ISSUES CONFRONTING
OUR CIVIL AVIATION OFFICIALS. INGERSOLL

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